

BCDOT-Parking Authority Working Group Actions

Parking Comments Collected in SE Study for Parking Authority

As part of the Southeast Baltimore Transportation Impact Study, the Volpe Center has collected comments from neighborhood groups, businesses, and developers serving as stakeholders representing their respective area or interest. Several comments pertain specifically to parking issues, which this study may not address.

The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) will share the comments listed below with the Baltimore City Parking Authority in order to work toward solutions that address stakeholder needs. At the same time, residents and businesses are encouraged to contact the City with parking related concerns as they arise. The BCDOT can be contacted with proposals to convert existing parking to angled parking on non-arterials if neighborhood consensus is reached. Additionally, the Parking Authority can be contacted directly for comments or questions on development of new parking garages.

The Volpe Center recommends that the BCDOT form a Working Group with the Parking Authority to address ongoing issues related to parking needs.

Comments collected from stakeholders for Parking Authority:

- Canton
 - Parking needed for business patrons/restaurant customers
- Federal Hill
 - Parking needed on nights/weekends and during sporting events
 - Businesses need at least 2 hour parking
 - City-owned properties/opportunities need to be identified for transition to parking garages
- Conkling-Haven
 - Need street parking
- Washington Hill
 - First Apostolic member parking is overrunning neighborhood; RPP has not worked
- Fells Point
 - Local business parking (bakery, Sylvan, etc. during day; bars at night) displaces residents; permit parking only goes to Aliceanna, 500 block Bond
 - Will the new garage be offered to residents at reduced costs?
 - Parking on Hudson St. at Can Co. and feeder streets is at a crisis level
- O'Donnell Square
 - Parking by O'Donnell Sq. is impossible
 - Parking needs to be arranged on Boston to address timing of parking restrictions
- Greektown
 - Meters/parking is in narrow areas on Eastern Avenue

Comments pertaining to BCDOT parking enforcement activities:

- Eden Street
 - Need enforcement of commercial parking restrictions, need to enforce parking of tour buses & 18-wheelers

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- Tour buses from downtown attractions park on North and South Eden St. especially on weekends and during the day on workdays (sometimes as many as 20 buses)
- There are signs on Eden prohibiting commercial parking but bus drivers say they are not commercial - calling 311 yields no results

Proposed solutions from stakeholders:

- Canton Community Association: “The off street parking issue could be accomplished with a multi-level parking garage. This method is a challenge- we need to find an area to build it and either a corporate sponsor or some other form of funding.”
- Canton/Brewer’s Hill: The parking problem is exacerbated by commuters who park in the neighborhoods and occupy spaces that residents need. Some people take I-95 to the area, park on residential streets, and take transit to their job. Better enforcement and signage is needed to prohibit commercial parking where applicable and enforce the rules against double-parking which is common among trucks and tour buses.
- Fells Point: Residents would like to see parking lots or garages (with reasonable rates for locals) on the eastside as well as the westside of Fells Point to ease the vehicle congestion within Fells Point.
- Other suggested approaches to improving parking conditions:
 - Create more residential parking permits
 - Limit or charge for non-resident parking
 - Create parking for non-residents on edges of study area
 - Design more park-and-ride lots in order to stop commuters from driving to the study area and parking on the streets in order to take transit to their jobs